

A VOICE-CONTROLLED SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING DIGITAL AUDIO  
CONTENT IN AN AUTOMOBILE

ABSTRACT

A voice-controlled system for providing digital audio content in an automobile is presented. The system comprises a CPU unit that includes a microprocessor programmed to decode and deliver digital media such as MP3s and ebooks to a listener. The CPU unit also includes a storage device for storing the media, RAM and a power supply. The storage device is a "plug-in" unit, such as a hard disc drive, that may be removed and inserted into a home computer for downloading media. The system is controlled using a voice-based input device that interfaces with the CPU unit. The voice-based device is operative to control in a hands-free manner, for example, the selection of the media to be delivered and the volume at which the media is delivered. A display and control unit is suitable for mounting on the dashboard of an automobile and provides an alternative to voice control of the system. The display and control unit also provides a scroll-through list of the available media and information about the media being played such as the title, the artist, the volume at which it is being played and a sound spectrum analysis.